

February 13, 2003

Honorable Michael Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission 445-12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 01-338, Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers.

The San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership supports a free market competition for all types of businesses. As an Economic Development Corporation supporting 1.8 million residents, 31 cities and 74,000 businesses, we realize the value a quality telecommunications infrastructure provides to economic development opportunities.

We support proposals before the FCC to eliminate unbundled switching and the UNE-P provisions. Our position is that this provisioning is not encouraging competition as much as it is hurting telecommunications consumers and hampering the future of this industry.

It is obvious that the current unbundling rules are not working when we read news reports that more than a half-million jobs have been lost in the telecom industry over the past three years. In addition, telecom companies have cut back in building facilities and infrastructure.

Changing current unbundling rules would be a win-win for consumers and the business community. Please keep that in mind as the FCC moves forward toward a decision in its triennial review.

Can our nation's economy sustain the crash of another technology sector? We hope we don't have to find out!

Sincerely,

Philip Hawkey  
Chairman of the Board  
San Gabriel Economic Partnership

CC:  
Commissioner Abernathy  
Commissioner Adelstein  
Commissioner Martin  
Commissioner Copps